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Background:

Insecurity inside and outside Rwanda remains the main obstacle to refugee repatriation and national reconciliation. U.S. efforts in Rwanda are focused on addressing the problem of security in the refugee camps through the UNSC, while pressing the Government of Rwanda to create a climate of confidence at home (peaceful relocation of the displaced, addressing of the land tenure issue, full deployment of UN troops/human rights monitors) and begin exploring political negotiations. We are providing appropriate assistance for these efforts. You may want to encourage Rwanda's neighbors to fulfill obligations as refugee-receiving states (i.e. provide security, facilitate relief distribution) and to support initiation of a political dialogue between the government and political moderates.

Talking Points:

Security in the Camps

-- We are concerned by the growing insecurity in refugee camps in Zaire and Tanzania. We are working with the international community to address this issue, and to achieve full deployment of UNAMIR and UN human rights monitors inside Rwanda.

-- In the meantime, we encourage Rwanda's neighbors to fulfill their obligations as refugee-receiving states, including providing security and facilitating assistance to the camps.

-- We also urge the Government of Rwanda to undertake confidence-building measures, such as assuring property rights and improving security, to encourage voluntary repatriation.

Political Reconciliation

-- While we believe there must be accountability for crimes committed, reconciliation ultimately will come about through dialogue. We are urging the Government of Rwanda to explore the possibilities for such dialogue with political moderates.

-- The regional refugee conference is an opportunity to address concrete refugee-related issues and to lay the groundwork for political reconciliation. We encourage neighboring states to take an active role in this effort.

U.S. Assistance to Rwanda

-- We are working with the donor community to provide aid to the new government so that it can restore basic services and effectively assert civilian authority throughout the country.

-- We have provided more than \$237 million in humanitarian assistance in response to the Rwanda crisis. In addition, we have committed \$2.5 million to Rwanda's World Bank arrearages and are prepared to make available \$9 million for rehabilitation and national reconciliation efforts.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE

REVIEW

AUTHORITY: HARRY R. MELONE

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AF/C:RFendrick
AF/RA:SMendyk
IO/UNP:GHStanton
AID/AFR/EA:LLloyd
P:LBassett
G:AJoyce
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